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Ethnicity and the prostate cancer experience: a qualitative metasynthesis

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Introduction

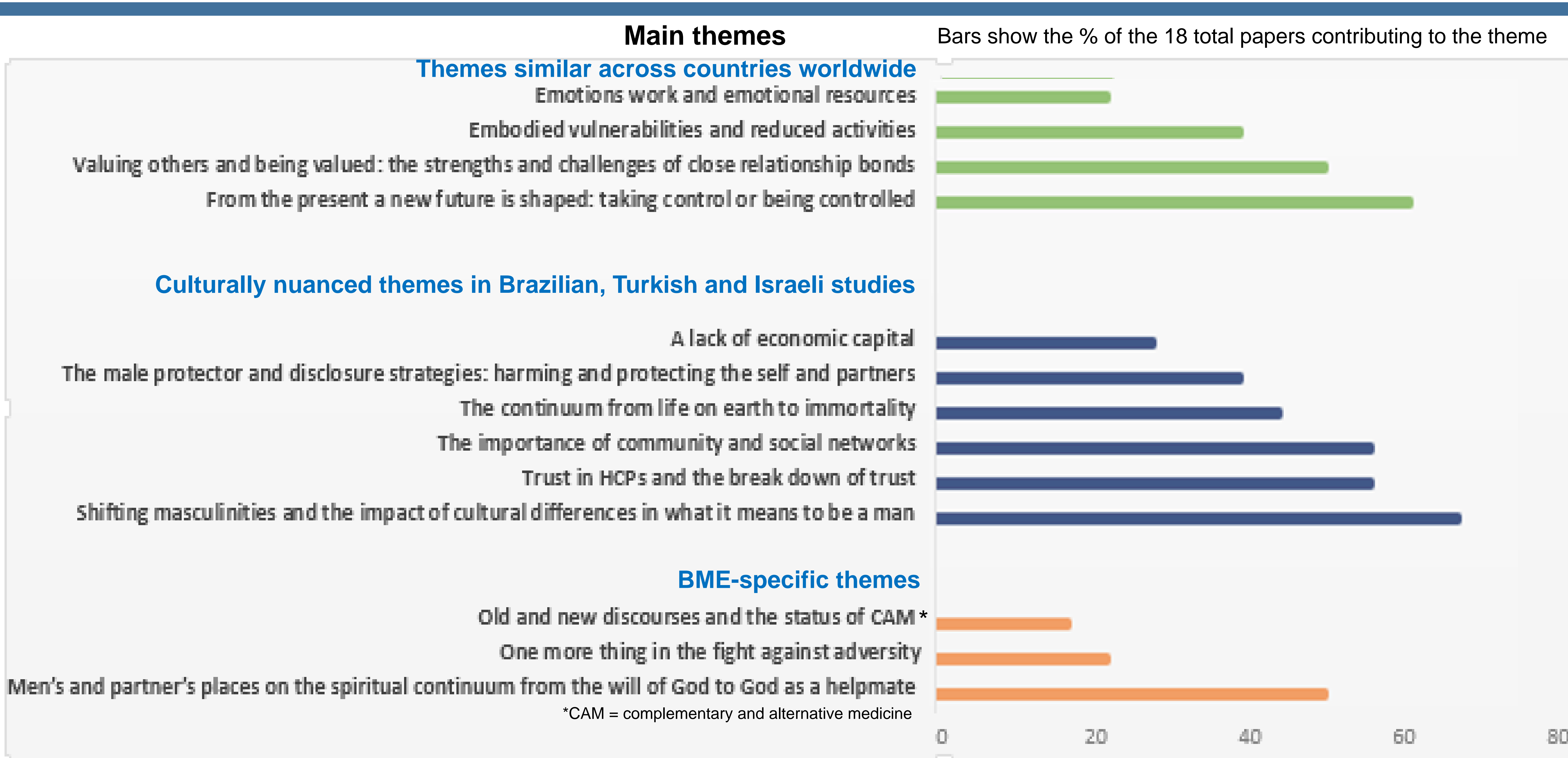
- Prostate cancer (PCa) is the most common invasive cancer in men in developed countries [1] and the 4th most common cancer worldwide [2].
- PCa incidence and survivorship figures and management pathways vary considerably with country, and between ethnic groups within countries, affecting the experiences of men with PCa.
- UK minority ethnic (BME) men with PCa express considerable dissatisfaction with care [3].
- Better understanding of the experiences of men with PCa from different ethnic groups is needed to improve satisfaction with health services and reduce inequalities.

Method

- Using Noblit and Hare's [4] approach to metasynthesis, we undertook the first systematic synthesis of the qualitative literature on the experiences of men with PCa that focused on:
- BME groups within regions with the highest prostate cancer incidence and survival figures (Northern and Western Europe, North America and Australasia),
 - majority ethnicities in countries outside these regions.

Results

- We found 18 relevant studies; mostly quality was fair to good but themes reflected study aims and are unlikely to be a complete representation of cultural perspectives.
- 14 studies on men from US and UK BME groups provided 3 unique thematic constructs
- In 4 majority ethnic group studies (from Brazil, Israel and Turkey), some themes resembled those found worldwide, but others had cultural nuances in common with the BME studies.



Conclusions

Spirituality enabled BME men to transcend healthcare issues and inequalities and draw on networks of support. Disclosure strategies were affected by all main constructs. Healthcare for Pca should consider and harness men's contextually and culturally specific coping mechanisms. More studies are needed in diverse ethnic groups.

References: 1. Baade PD, Youlden DR, Krnjacki LJ. *Mol Nutr Food Res* 2009;Feb;53(2):171-84; 2. Cancer Research UK, 2015, 3. Thompson R. *BME Cancer Communities*, 2013, 4. Noblit GW, Hare RD. *Meta-ethnography: Synthesizing qualitative studies*: Sage; 1988